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FEB 2 7 2004

OFFICIAL

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Li, et al.

For

LEAD FREE BASE

LOCKING MECHANISM

Serial No.

10/677,768

Filing Date

October 2, 2003

Our Docket

GECZ 2 00618-1

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Box Non-Fee Amendment P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above referenced patent application as follows:

03/16/2004 AJOHNSO1 00000005 060308

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent & Trademark Office, Art Unit 2875, at fax number 703-872-9306, on February 27, 2004.

Timothy b Nauman

PAGE 2/8 * RCVD AT 2/27/2004 3:47:24 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/5 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-ss):01-32